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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : FRANZ VOSSEN Docket No.: 00-601
Serial No.: 09/647,699 Examiner : S. Choi
Filed : September 29, 2000 Art Unit : 3724
For : APPARATUS FOR REMOVING BROKEN-OUT
PIECES FROM A SHEET OF MATERIAL
OR THE LIKE

900 Chapel Street
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New Haven, CT 06510-2802

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Action
mailed December 31, 2002, with three extensions requested, please
amend as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4,
with the following rewritten paragraph:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention concerns an apparatus for removing broken-out
pieces, in particular waste portions, from a sheet of material
containing blanks or the like flat portions, as set forth in the
classifying portion of the independent claim.--

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